

Week 4 Day 3: Imagisme

ENGL201: Introduction to Modernism

Schedule

- Housekeeping (5 mins)
 - Peer Work Session
 - Requested rooms for Monday, February 5th and Tuesday, February 6th from 1.30 to 4.30.
 - Grades for Blogs and Responses
 - Returned Tuesday
- Kurtz and *Heart of Darkness* wrap-up (10 mins)
- Imagisme (35 mins)

“The horror! The horror!”

Heart of Darkness Big Take-Aways

- Psychology and anthropology work as two sides of the same coin: the text sets up a structure of colonial optics (looking at the other) at the same time as it builds character through indications of internal psychology (looking into/at the self)
- The text is ambivalent about moments when the “other” looks back, often abstracting African bodies and individuals (the Helmsman, the “barbarous and superb” woman)
- The text effects irony by setting up and then complicating binaries (or dialectics!)
- Ideas of primitive peoples and art works permeate Western modernist art and the emerge from the colonial context that Conrad engages in





Ezra Pound

(1885-1960)

- American poet, editor, translator, and theorist
- Cultivated talents of writers like H.D. and T.S. Eliot
- Became a proponent of fascism
 - Arrested and imprisoned for treason against the US for a radio broadcast against the US war effort in WWII
- Translated Provençal song; Inspired by Asian writing systems
- *ABC of Reading* (1934)
- Translation of Ernest Fenollosa: *The Chinese Written Character as a Medium for Poetry* (1936)
- *The Pisan Cantos* (1948)

H.D. (Hilda Doolittle)

- American poet, editor, memoirist, novelist
- Original “Imagiste” with Pound and Richard Aldington
- Highly influenced by Classical Greek art
- *Sea Garden* (1916)
- *Notes on Thought and Vision* (1919)
- *Tribute to Freud* (1956)



-ISMS

- Connects to an established way of constructing an artistic movement



- Communicates a desire for change, a self-declaration against an apathetic public



Cultural Formation (Raymond Williams)

- Not just a bunch of friends who think the same way
- Not a formal institution (library, school, government, etc.)
- A social phenomenon with
 1. *Internal organization*
 - Formal membership, collective public manifestation, or loose group association (often one that gets written about)
 2. *External relations*
 - A sense of itself in relation to other groups → distinction in style, medium, publication outlet, or perhaps active opposition for its own sake

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Price 15 cents

NO. 1



Poetry
A Magazine of Verse

CONTENTS

Poetry	-	-	Arthur Davison Ficke
I am the Woman			William Vaughan Moody
To Whistler, American	-		Ezra Pound
Middle Aged	-	-	Ezra Pound
Fish of the Flood			Emilia Stuart Lorimer
To One Unknown	-	-	Helen Dudley
Symphony of a Mexican Garden			Grace Hazard Conkling

Editorial Comment

As it was — On the Reading of Poetry — The Motive of the Magazine

Notes and Announcements

543 Cass Street, Chicago

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October MCMXXII

Poetry: A Magazine of Verse

- Founded by Harriet Monroe in 1912
- Became the primary mouthpiece for modernist poetry in the USA
- First publication of "The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock," T.S. Eliot's first professionally published poem
- Instrumental in launching declared literary movements like Imagisme and Objectivism

Dos or Don'ts?

1. Direct treatment of the “thing,” whether subjective or objective.
2. To use absolutely no word that did not contribute to the presentation.
3. As regarding rhythm: to compose in sequence of the musical phrase, not in sequence of a metronome.

(2065)



About Wrinkles

If the skin be kept soft and smooth, wrinkles will not easily develop—indeed they may be staved off almost indefinitely. But the question is, How is it possible to keep the skin in such a condition? The natural, and therefore the most effective, way of achieving this is to use

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Beauty of
skin and
complexion

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An 'Image' is that which presents an intellectual and emotional complex in an instant of time.

(Pound 2065)

A complex is... “a system of connected ideas, with a strong emotional tone, and a tendency to produce actions of a definite character”

(Bernard Hart qtd. in

Modernism: An Anthology, Lawrence Rainey, ed. 95)





Set of sliding doors of Plum tree by Kanō Sanraku, early 17th century